

# STREET SMART

June 5, 2002

Governments  
**SANBAG**  
Working Together

## Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

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### ■ SANBAG provides funding for call boxes on Route 210



Call boxes like this one on Interstate 215 in Colton are part of a network of more than 1,600 "life lines" across San Bernardino County.

Drivers who need to report an emergency or request roadside assistance on State Route 210 soon will have access to call boxes, following the Board's decision to fund 40 boxes along this new stretch of freeway.

Six miles of State Route 210 opened last summer, but the \$1 DMV registration fee that pays for the call box program was not sufficient to fund these new capital costs. Therefore, this stretch of freeway has been without call boxes for the past 10 months.

With another nine miles of the 210 freeway opening this fall in San Bernardino County, the SANBAG Board approved the \$175,000 purchase and installation of boxes for the entire 15 miles. The county has more than 1,500 of these battery-powered, solar-charged roadside cellular phones on its freeways and highways.

SANBAG originally applied for state funding, but withdrew its request when the shortage of transportation funds became known. Measure I revenue, generated by the county's half-cent transportation sales tax, will be used for the new boxes.

Although call box use has been declining, SANBAG staff pointed out the strong support of call boxes voiced in the Inland Empire Annual Survey. According to the survey, while 17% of the respondents had used a call box during the past two years, 87% said that it is very important to have this service in place countywide.

### ■ Three grade separation projects to receive design funds

Design will start soon on three rail crossings that force San Bernardino County drivers to wait for trains to pass. Board members approved \$6.2 million for engineering work on new grade separations -- the division of train and vehicular traffic using a bridge or underpass. Selected projects and funding include:

- Lenwood Road - Barstow/County of San Bernardino, \$1.9 million
- Palm Avenue - San Bernardino, \$2 million
- Valley Boulevard - Colton, \$2.3 million

Last April, SANBAG adopted a list of "high priority" grade separations, ranked by the amount of time drivers must wait for trains. Five were chosen for design and construction, and design work is underway. The three new projects have received design funding only; funds have not been secured for construction.

### ■ Postmus, Alexander to lead SANBAG Board of Directors

Members elected San Bernardino County Supervisor Bill Postmus to serve as president of the SANBAG Board of Directors for 2002-03. Bill Alexander, mayor of Rancho Cucamonga, was named vice president. Both positions will take effect at the July 3 Board meeting.

Postmus, who was elected as supervisor of the county's first district in 2000, currently is vice president of the SANBAG Board and is chairman of the Administrative Committee. He also chairs both the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority and the San Bernardino County Children and Families Commission.

Alexander was elected to the Rancho Cucamonga City Council in 1988 and has served as the city's mayor since 1994. He is a member of SANBAG's Administrative, Major Projects, Commuter Rail and Alameda Corridor East Committees.

### Down the Road ...

- June 12: Administrative Committee, 9 a.m.; California Transportation Commission Roundtable with SANBAG/RCTC staff, 2 p.m.
- June 13: Major Projects Committee, 9 a.m.; CTC Meeting, San Bernardino City Hall, 8:30 a.m.
- June 19: Plans & Programs Committee, 12 noon
- June 20: Route 210 Open House, 4:30 - 7 p.m., Kolb Middle School, Rialto
- June 21: Mountain/Desert Committee, 9 a.m.
- June 26: SCRRA Delegates Briefing, 8:30 a.m.

## Measure I supports Transportation Centers countywide

Train/bus connections, parking, fueling stations, other amenities abound



Victorville's Transportation Center, which opened in January 2000, offers a full menu of services for travelers who take advantage of alternate commuting methods.

San Bernardino County's population has soared 20% during the past 10 years, and SANBAG continues to encourage alternate commuting methods to meet the area's transportation needs. Knowing that new or wider freeways won't solve all of the county's traffic problems, SANBAG promotes public transit, ridesharing and clean fuels as strategies for managing congestion and improving air quality.

As a service to commuters who make use of these alternate transportation methods, SANBAG supports transportation centers countywide. These centers offer amenities to help make traveling by bus, train or other means a positive experience from start to finish.

This month's issue of "Measuring Success" takes a look at these transportation centers, which were funded in part by Measure I, San Bernardino County's half-cent transportation sales tax. Cities also have tapped federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for the construction of transportation centers across the county.

### Convenience for public transit users

There's no doubt about it -- southern California has an entrenched car culture. It takes a great deal of effort to get people out of their cars and onto buses and trains. Transportation centers provide safe, well-lighted locations for drivers to leave their cars behind. The Victorville Transportation Center, located on five acres on D Street, includes 145 parking spaces within a lighted, fenced lot. Bicycle lockers are provided as well. Commuters can continue their trek by catching buses or Amtrak trains. The Montclair Transcenter on Richton Street also serves as

a regional transit hub, with connections to Metrolink trains, as well as Omnitrans and Foothill Transit buses. Covered seating areas are provided for shelter from heat and rain.

The Montclair center includes another service of value to working parents -- a child care facility. In Victorville, the center features the Kicks Cafe restaurant, CHP and Victorville Police Department substations, taxi information, an ATM machine and public restrooms.

### Alternate Fuels/Electric Charging

Area transportation centers also are part of the Inland Empire Clean Fuels Corridor, which provides liquefied natural gas, compressed natural gas and electric vehicle charging stations.

Both the Victorville Transportation Center and the Yucca Valley center on Kickapoo Trail offer 24-hour compressed natural gas fueling service. Drivers can

charge their electric vehicles at a number of local stations, including the Montclair Transcenter, the Rialto Metrolink station and the Fontana Metrolink station.

Measure I funds have helped provide the infrastructure for these centers, while Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality funds and support from Assembly Bill 2766 have helped develop these fueling and charging sites in an effort to reduce mobile emissions.

More information about alternative fueling locations and electric vehicle charging stations is available by visiting [www.cleancarmaps.com](http://www.cleancarmaps.com).



Selected transportation centers across the county offer fueling for compressed natural gas vehicles, like SANBAG's work van.

